

Abstract

Method and apparatus for detecting period length
fluctuations of periodic signals

5

In order to determine the period length (3) of a first
signal (1), it is known to measure said length by counting
the periods of a second signal (2) with a shorter period
length (4). The measurement result (m) is dependent both on
10 fluctuations of the period length (3) of the first signal
(1) and also on the accumulated fluctuations of the period
length (4) of the second signal (2). In order to be able to
measure the fluctuations of the period length (3) of the
first signal (1) whilst also taking into account the
15 fluctuations of the period length (4) of the second signal
(2), the measurement in accordance with the invention is
carried out for two different values of the period length
(4) of the second signal (2). Both the fluctuations of the
period length (3) of the first signal (1) and the
20 accumulated fluctuations of the period length (4) of the
second signal (2) can be calculated independently of one
another from said two values. The method enables, in
particular, the period length fluctuations of a first
signal (1) that originates from a phase-locked loop (5) to
25 be detected.

(Fig. 1)